

Digital Media Developers Group November 4, 2004 Meeting Notes

Old Business

ITAB report—Kevin Lanahan

OIT is fairly certain that the state will purchase the Google search engine. No timeframe is available yet.

The state home page redesign has been implemented as of November 1.

ITAB has prepared an RFP for the digital certificate contract, currently held by VeriSign.

MOTEC will be moving to the DNR facilities on East Elm during the week of December 13.

MOREnet will hold a security symposium in December.

Web Guidelines—Kevin Lanahan

The first draft of accessibility section has been distributed to the web guidelines committee. After it has been reviewed it will be posted on the DMD site for general comments.

New State Portal and “More News”—Sandy Oidtman

The redesigned state portal went live November 1 to generally good reviews. The “More News” page will only archive news releases for two weeks due to the length of the page.

e-Gov scorecards—Kevin Lanahan, Hannah Mao

The e-Gov scorecards are available for all state agencies to reviews. Hannah encouraged everyone to read the entire report narrative before changing any agency entries.

If you need to make any changes to your agency’s status, you will need to apply for an id and password. Once you make changes, they will be verified before posted.

It is important for each agency to review their scorecard and make any changes before the sites are reviewed again in early 2005. This report establishes a baseline for all future scorecards.

New Business

Accessibility Demonstration—Gary Wunder and Rosalie Backer-Thompson

Gary Wunder, a UM employee and assistive technology user, demonstrated the JAWS screen reader. He reviewed a home page, a web form, a data table and a PDF document.

Even though the HTML pages validated and passed 508 tests, he demonstrated some usability issues with the page structures.

He demonstrated the problem with a PDF form. Acrobat was able to identify the

document as a form, but since the form was not fillable, there was no way for Gary to actually use the form.

Rosalie suggested that Missouri Assistive Technology Board may be able to help match up agencies with assistive technology users to help agencies fine-tune their sites for accessibility.

Using XML and XSLT—Jason Stirnaman

Jason demonstrated how he is using XML and XSLT to work with data. XML is the next step from HTML to XHTML to XML.

This is a different way to build display pages. Instead of building an HTML page and applying a style sheet, the developer builds a style sheet (a template) that incorporates the elements in the XML file.